IM WG Chair's Report-Carolyn Owen October 22, 2003

- ❖ ~70 people attended the OSH Subgroup meeting with all 3 task groups meeting and many EH staff joining for parts of the discussions.
- Plenary Session-
 - Investigation of Beryllium Exposure Cases Discovered at the North Las Vegas Facility of NNSA -During the EFCOG Plenary Session, NNSA provided a presentation and panel discussion regarding a beryllium event at the North Las Vegas facility. A couple observations were discussed that are important to many complex locations. One was the acknowledgement of a loss of continuity of site knowledge as personnel retire or relocate and new contractors pick up the work. Another was that we often suspect and evaluate areas and equipment for radiological contamination, but often we may not be looking for other hazards that may be present.
 - **Rick Jones, Deputy Assistant Secretary (EH-5)** presented the newly reorganized Office of Health. He explained the structure for the office and the responsibilities for each of the principal positions.
 - Rick cautioned that we must watch closely as the sites work toward shutdowns because there is often movement of key talent. When this happens the sites must recognize the impact and make the appropriate decisions.
 - During the question and answer period, he was supportive of the RPTG initiative to engage the EM Program Office with questions about the "4.0 Safety Program," and suggested that we provide our concern to EH and EH will assist in establishing communications with EM.
 - Rick also presented comments provided by Beverly Cook, Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety, and Health who was unable to make this EFCOG session at he last minute. Her comments included:
 - She is concerned for stress in the workplace caused by issues at closure sites including: People loosing jobs; as people leave, those remaining are under even more pressure. She is concerned that this can impact safety performance and that contractors should watch for it and work with the workforce to limit the effect.
 - Concerns for the new Fitness for Duty program-Is it working?
 Are the Security Forces holding up? Age effect; Other pressures.

Health Communications

- Hanford Tank Farms under attack because of chemical fumes
 - Should DOE be doing better communicating?
 - What actually are the exposures?
 - What are we doing as Health Communicators to answer the questions?
- We should expect future information from EH to assist with communications.
- EFCOG Challenges from Ms. Cook
 - Identify issues and take action
 - o If DOE action is required, <u>ask</u> for help

Her closing comments to the EFCOG were "Do the right thing and focus on what's important," and "Don't get dragged down by minutia."

• LLNL Electronic Integration Work Sheets-A presentation and panel discussion was provided in regard to the LLNL electronic Integrated Work Sheet system of documenting and authorizing work at LLNL. Development of the system was a team effort and this approach has lead to good acceptability. A panel discussion on how occupational medicine, industrial hygiene, industrial safety and radiation protection integrate in their roles in this process was given.

Break Out Task Group Sessions-The three task groups met for a half-day each the mornings of 10/21 and 10/22 for specific presentation and discussions in their topical areas.

The status of action items from these meeting is included below.

Occupational Medicine Task Group -Action Items 10-22-03: 7 New

- 1. Steering Committee will be working on a position paper concerning medical surveillance and IRB issues. **Due Spring 04**
- 2. Select peer-reviewers to assist UC with development of treatment guidelines for musculoskeletal disorders. **Due 12/03.**
- 3. Post response to request for chelation protocols for Plutonium on the web that may lead to a unified approach. **Due 12/03.**
- **4.** Review the definition of FFD to assist with a consistent approach across the complex. **Due 2/03.**
- 5. OM would like to make a presentation at the next Safety Conference on the role of OM for ISM. **Due 1/04.**
- **6.** Improve the communication of health and risk issues to workers, employees and DOE Lessons Learned. **Due Spring 04**
- 7. The Steering Committee will select members for input to Mohandas Bhat on Enterprise project and with Libby White on the beryllium research agenda. **Due 12/03.**

Old Action Items:

4 completed, 1 hold, 1 on-going

- 1. Dr. Morton has been working closely with Ron Edge. Several changes have been made to the propose fitness qualification based on this collaborative approach. (Completed)
- 2. Contract draft language is now on hold until further notice. (On Hold)
- 3. Dr. Seward presented information on OM/ISM integration. (Closed)
- **4.** Dr. Brady met with Beverly Cook and Rick Jones to discuss the role of Occupational Medicine. We are taking small steps to more fully understanding the roles and for integrating disciplines. **(Ongoing)**
- 5. Have expanded the Steering Committee membership to include Brookhaven and Savannah River. (Closed)
- 6. Post the questionnaire for SARS has been posted. (Closed)

<u>Industrial Hygiene/Industrial Safety Task Group-Action Items 10-22-03:</u> 5 New

- 1. Provide a crosswalk on ISO 90001 &140001 and how it relates to ISM & VPP. **Due Spring Meeting 04 Bob Keen**
- 2. Provide a checklist for BSL 3 lab procedural and facility operations readiness. **Due Spring Meeting 04 Ken Groves**
- 3. Re-format BBS document from a handbook format into a guidance booklet for posting on the EFCOG website. Due January 04 revisions complete posting by Spring of 04 by Bob Waters, Harvey Grasso, Ken Groves, Dan Marsick, Carolyn Owen
- 4. Work with the IM WG to determine when and where the next ISM general meeting is to occur and offer to have the IH/IS task group lead a session on "Tools of Cultural Change" inclusive of BBS and including presentations by successful outside industries using different models. Due Spring 04 Dennis Derkac, Bob Keen, Eddie Magness.
- 5. Send Pantex version of "Worker Bill of Rights" to group chair for submission to website **Due 12/04 Eddie Magness**

Old Action Item- All previous action items have been completed.(See IH/IS minutes)

Radiation Protection Task Group-Action Items 10-22-03: 1 New

1. DOE-EM "Safety Metrics" may prove to be expensive to implement and may not be conducive to integrated safety management. Specifically, the EM goal of "zero skin contaminations" does not adequately consider risk management. The planned action is to draft a letter to Beverly Cook, EH-1 to address the issue. The RPTG believes that there are cross-cutting areas in Occ Med and IH and will solicit support for this letter form these Task Groups. Assuming support, the letter sponsored by the RPTG will carry the weight of the Occupational Safety and Health Subgroup. The letter will also be forwarded to the EFCOG Executive Management Committee for consideration. **Due Spring 04 Greg Perkins**

Status: NEW

Old 1 on-going 8 done (see RP TG Minutes)

 Prepare a white paper reflecting the consensus RPTG position on the incorporation of ANSI N13.12-1999 into DOE rules/standards. Provide position paper to ISM WG chair and DOE representatives. Perkins 04/04 Status: On-Going

A white paper was developed during the October 2002 RPTG Meeting. Following the meeting, the paper was provided to the ISMWG Chair.

Update – At the April 2003 meeting, it was decided that the RPTG should go on record with EH-1 regarding this issue. A letter will be drafted and submitted to EH-1 to transmit the position for the support of ANSI Standard 13.12-1999. The status for this task should be revised to On-Going.